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United Nations A/C.5/55/L.44

General Assembly

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20 March 2001

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 115

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/220 of 23 December 2000,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Board of Auditors concerning action taken by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme towards removing the reasons that led to the qualified audit opinion on their financial statements for the biennium ended 31 December 1999,[1]

Having also considered the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the comments of the Board of Auditors contained in the note by the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

3. *Accepts* the financial reports and audited financial statements and reports and qualified audit opinions of the Board of Auditors regarding the United Nations Development Programme,[3] the United Nations Population Fund,[4] and the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme[5] for the period ended 31 December 1999;

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[1] A/55/820.
[2] A/55/836.
[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 5A* (A/55/5/Add.1), chap. IV.
[4] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5G* (A/55/5/Add.7), chap. V.
[5] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5I* (A/55/5/Add.9), chap. IV.

01-29599 (E) 200301

4. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to adhere to the plans they submitted to the Board of Auditors to correct the deficiencies which led to the qualified audit opinions of the 1998-1999 financial statements and to take all the necessary steps to prevent such shortcomings from occurring again.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda items 116 and 123

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Human resources management

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman

Gratis personnel provided by Governments

The General Assembly,

(a) Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the situation of gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

(b) Decides that future reports shall be submitted annually on the situation of gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities commencing with the period ending 31 December 2000.

[1] A/55/728, A/C.5/55/13 and A/C.5/55/36.
[2] See A/C.5/55/SR.49.

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United Nations A/C.5/55/L.46

General Assembly

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21 March 2001

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 176
Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman following informal consultations

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1312 (2000) of 31 July 2000, regarding the establishment of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was Security Council resolution 1344 (2001) of 15 March 2001,

Recalling its resolution 55/237 of 23 December 2000 on the financing of the Mission,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

[1] A/55/666 and Corr.1.
[2] A/55/688 and Add.1.

01-29699 (E) 210301

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea as at 28 February 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 101.9 million United States dollars, representing 92 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 13 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Expresses* concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea in full and on time;

5. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 A of 15 October 1997;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

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[3] A/55/688/Add.1.

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the earliest possible time on how the concept of operations affects and can justify the proposed structure of the Mission, including its senior staff component;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

13. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 180 million dollars gross (177,866,900 dollars net) for the operation of the Mission for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, inclusive of the amount of 150 million dollars gross (148,220,200 dollars net) authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/237;

14. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 150 million dollars gross (148,220,200 dollars net) already apportioned under the terms of its resolution 55/237, to apportion the additional amount of 30 million dollars gross (29,646,700 dollars net) for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, the latest of which were resolution 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and decisions 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999 for the period 1998-2000, and resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000 for the period 2001-2003, the scale of assessments for 2000[4] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 13,791,045 dollars gross (13,628,632 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the scale of assessments for 2001[5] to be applied against the balance, that is, 16,208,955 dollars gross (16,018,068 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

15. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 A (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 353,300 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, 162,413 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000 and the balance, that is, 190,887 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

16. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

18. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

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[4] See resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A.

[5] See resolution 55/5 B.

19. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 117
Programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Draft decisions submitted by the Chairman

Draft decision I
Integrated Management Information System

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the twelfth progress report of the Secretary-General on the Integrated Management Information System project;[1]

(b) Endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.[2]

Draft decision II
Review and assessment of the asbestos problem at the United Nations and management of asbestos-containing materials at buildings at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi and at the locations of the regional commissions

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the review and assessment of the asbestos problem at the United Nations and the management of asbestos-containing materials at buildings at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi and at the locations of the regional commissions[3] and of the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[4]

(b) Welcomes the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General to solve the problem at United Nations Headquarters and at some other duty stations.

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[1] A/55/632.
[2] See A/55/7/Add.8.
[3] A/55/135.
[4] A/55/7/Add.1, paras. 2-12.

01-30516 (E) 290301

Draft decision III
Facilities management

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on facilities management;[5]

(b) Endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[6]

(c) Also takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Overseas Properties Management and Information Exchange Network: a globally coordinated collaborative approach to facilities management;[7]

(d) Endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report.[8]

Draft decision IV
Profitability of the commercial activities of the United Nations

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the intention of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[9] to review the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed measures to improve the profitability of the commercial activities of the United Nations;[10]

(b) Decides to revert to this question during the main part of its fifty-sixth session on the basis of the anticipated report of the Advisory Committee.

Draft decision V
Construction of additional conference facilities at Bangkok and Addis Ababa

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the construction of additional conference facilities at Bangkok and Addis Ababa[11] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[12]

(b) Decides to retain the existing balance of the construction-in-progress account in that account pending its consideration of all related matters in accordance with the procedure established by resolution 37/237 of 21 December 1982.

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[5] A/54/628.
[6] A/55/7/Add.1, paras. 13-20.
[7] A/55/210.
[8] A/55/7/Add.1, paras. 21-23.
[9] A/55/7/Add.1, para. 39.
[10] A/55/546.
[11] A/55/493.
[12] A/55/7/Add.7.

Draft decision VI
Security arrangements at the United Nations Office at Geneva

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the security arrangements at the United Nations Office at Geneva, including envisioned financial arrangements[13] and the related observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(b) Requests the Secretary-General to keep the security arrangements at the United Nations Office at Geneva under review to ensure the full protection of delegates, staff and visitors in the United Nations premises and the safety of the United Nations property at Geneva.

Draft decision VII
Common services

The General Assembly, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on common services:[14]

(a) Endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[15]

(b) Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made and decisions taken on the future of the Task Force on Common Services, bearing in mind the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee referred to in paragraph (a) above.

Draft decision VIII
Internal and external printing practices of the Organization

The General Assembly, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the internal and external printing practices of the Organization:[16]

(a) Endorses the comments and observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report on the subject;[17]

(b) Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to further improve the printing practices of the Organization, bearing in mind the documentation requirements of Member States mandated by the General Assembly in its relevant resolutions, and expanding the use of the United Nations printing facilities as a common service for the needs of the United Nations funds and programmes based at Headquarters and the specialized agencies based at Geneva.

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[13] A/55/511.
[14] A/55/461.
[15] A/55/7/Add.1, paras. 24-29.
[16] A/55/132.
[17] A/55/7/Add.1, paras. 30-38.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda items 117 and 168

Programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman

United Nations Fund for International Partnerships

The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly take note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships[1] and of the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon.[2]

[1] A/54/664 and Add.1-3 and A/55/763 and Corr.1.
[2] See A/55/7/Add.9.

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 132
Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman following informal consultations

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council revised and extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1346 (2001) of 30 March 2001,

Recalling its resolution 53/29 of 20 November 1998 on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and resolutions 54/241 A and B of 23 December 1999 and 15 June 2000, respectively, on the financing of the Observer Mission and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

[1] A/55/805 and Corr.1.
[2] A/55/839.

01-30802 (E) 300301

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone as at 28 February 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 242.1 million United States dollars, representing some 41 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 11 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

5. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 A of 15 October 1997;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

12. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone the amount of 73,273,600 dollars gross (73,784,400 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, in addition to the amount of 504,399,051 dollars gross (496,545,461 dollars net) already appropriated under the terms of General Assembly resolution 54/241 B, inclusive of the amount of 23,931,281 dollars gross (20,250,873 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of 3,741,370 dollars gross (3,328,988 dollars net) for the United Nations Logistics Base;

13. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 504,399,051 dollars gross (496,545,461 dollars net) already apportioned under the terms of its resolution 54/241 B, to apportion among Member States an additional amount of 36,636,800 dollars gross (36,892,200 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, the latest of which were resolution 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and decisions 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999 for the period 1998-2000, and resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000 for the period 2001-2003, the scale of assessments for 2000[3] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 18,318,400 dollars gross (18,446,100 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the scale of assessments for 2001[4] to be applied against the balance, that is, 18,318,400 dollars gross (18,446,100 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

14. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 A (X) of 15 December 1955, the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, shall take into consideration the decrease in their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 255,400 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, 127,700 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000 and the balance, that is, 127,700 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

15. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

16. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

17. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

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[3] See resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A.

[4] See resolution 55/5 B.

18. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone".

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 116
Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Procurement reform

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/214 B and 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 52/212 B of 31 March 1998, 52/252 of 8 September 1998, 53/204 and 53/208 B of 18 December 1998 and 54/14 of 29 October 1999,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on procurement reform,[1] on measures taken to improve procurement activities in the field[2] and on procurement-related arbitration[3] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[4] as well as the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the follow-up audit of the implementation of procurement reform,[5]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[6] and of the comments and observations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the progress achieved so far in addressing the concerns expressed in General Assembly resolution 54/14, and urges the Secretary-General to continue the full implementation of the resolution;

3. *Stresses* the need for the procurement process to be efficient, transparent and cost effective and to reflect fully the international character of the Organization;

[1] A/55/127.
[2] A/54/866.
[3] A/54/458.
[4] A/55/458 and A/55/829.
[5] A/55/746.
[6] A/55/127, A/54/866 and A/54/458.

01-31025 (E) 290301

4. *Endorses* the observations of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 6 of its report concerning procurement reform,[7] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure proper accountability and training of all those involved in the procurement process at Headquarters and in the field;

5. *Stresses* the need for adequate training of all personnel involved in the procurement process at Headquarters and in the field;

6. *Takes note* of the experiences of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees referred to in the report of the Secretary-General on procurement reform,[1] and reaffirms the need for the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

7. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General for the expeditious dissemination of information relating to procurement in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and requests the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts to sensitize the business community and United Nations offices in the developing countries and countries with economies in transition to procurement opportunities with the United Nations;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to encourage the use of procurement from developing countries within the region for the requirements of missions when this is more efficient and cost-effective;

9. *Welcomes* the initiative taken by the Procurement Division to make procurement officials directly accountable to substantive departments that they support;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to determine if similar tracking mechanisms could be introduced in other areas of the Secretariat;

11. *Looks forward* to the issuance of a revised version of the Procurement Manual before the end of 2001;

12. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to improve annual procurement planning for all offices and departments and to make such plans publicly available, including to all permanent missions to the United Nations;

13. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to develop a comprehensive system to measure the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the procurement function, by taking into account the best practices of other organizations of the United Nations system, reaffirms the need for the completion of the exercise, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly the results when completed;

14. *Expresses its concern* about delays in payments to vendors, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that terms of contracts are respected;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the discussions of the World Trade Organization on rules of origin and to keep the General Assembly informed of the progress achieved;

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[7] A/55/458.

16. *Notes* that the detailed information requested in paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 54/14 was not included in the current report of the Secretary-General on procurement reform, and requests the Secretary-General to submit in future reports as an annex, detailed information on the awarding of contracts for procurement at Headquarters and in the field to all countries, to developing countries, least developed and African countries and countries with economies in transition;

17. *Also notes* the increase in delegation of authority to the field in procurement activities, as mentioned in paragraph 6 of the report of the Advisory Committee concerning procurement reform,[7] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that there is capacity in field missions to perform the procurement functions properly as well as effective and efficient mechanisms at Headquarters for monitoring procurement in the field, including:

(a) Remedial measures taken to address problems identified with regard to the United Nations peacekeeping missions;

(b) Standardization of the corrective measures taken for existing and future peacekeeping operations;

(c) A description of how accountability was pursued in the cases of individuals found to have engaged in fraud, mismanagement or abuse and how accountability measures would be applied in the future;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assess the workload and functions of all relevant units involved in the procurement process in order to guarantee that each is planning and performing with optimum efficiency and to ensure proper training for improving the skills of personnel involved in the procurement process;

19. *Reiterates* that the criteria for an exigency, as outlined in General Assembly decision 54/468 of 7 April 2000, must be met before making emergency procurements as an exigency provision, so that all procurements follow set procedures;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee, proposals for revision of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, which may facilitate the implementation of procurement reform;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to recommendation 4 of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,[5] to ensure that the criteria contained in the Procurement Manual for the use of letters of assist are strictly adhered to, and, in this connection, requests that a report on the subject be submitted to the General Assembly;

22. *Reiterates* the need for executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to improve their procurement practices by simplifying the registration process for vendors who have already registered with another organization of the United Nations system, with a view to a more streamlined and transparent process, utilizing, among others, the Internet;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on all aspects of procurement reform at Headquarters and in the field, including improvements to the procurement process within the United Nations funds and programmes, as well as on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 116
Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Review of the question of the term of office of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/216 D of 23 December 1993 and 55/220 of 23 December 2000,

Recalling also its resolution 74 (I) of 7 December 1946,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the question of the term of office of the Board of Auditors,[1]

1. *Decides* that the term of office of the Board of Auditors shall be for a non-consecutive term of office of six years duration starting on 1 July 2002;

2. *Decides*, for the transitional arrangements, to approve alternative 1 of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] whereby only the appointment of the Auditor-General of South Africa will be extended until 30 June 2006 and members elected under the current procedure shall be eligible for re-election;

3. *Also decides* to amend the first sentence of regulation 12.2 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations as follows:

"The members of the Board of Auditors shall be elected for a non-consecutive term of office of six years' duration".

[1] A/55/796.

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Fifth Committee
Agenda item 127
Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit and investigation of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia

The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit and investigation of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.[1]

[1] A/54/120.

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United Nations A/C.5/55/L.53

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Fifth Committee
Agenda item 128
Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the follow-up to the 1997 audit and investigation of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the follow-up to the 1997 audit and investigation of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.[1]

[1] A/52/784.

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Fifth Committee
Agenda items 127 and 128

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the investigation into possible fee-splitting arrangements between defence counsel and indigent detainees at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the investigation into possible fee-splitting arrangements between defence counsel and indigent detainees at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia[1] and the information provided that the investigation will be ongoing to ensure the highest standards of propriety and effectiveness of the Tribunals,

Having also considered the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, which should be implemented expeditiously, taking into account the observations expressed by the Tribunals in this regard,

[1] A/55/759.

01-31103 (E) 290301

Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Internal Oversight Services continues its investigation on the question of the possible fee-splitting arrangements between defence counsel and indigent detainees at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and other related matters, in consultation with the Registrars of both Tribunals, and to report thereon to the General Assembly, including on the implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, at its fifty-sixth session.

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Fifth Committee
Agenda item 124
United Nations common system

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman following informal consultations

Strengthening the international civil service

The General Assembly decides to defer consideration of the reports of the Secretary-General[1] with a view to taking a decision on strengthening the international civil service at its fifty-sixth session.

[1] A/55/526 and A/54/483.

01-31109 (E) 290301

United Nations A/C.5/55/L.56

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 116
Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman following informal consultations

Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

The General Assembly:

(a) Notes the following reports:

(i) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the follow-up to the 1997 review of the programme and administrative practices of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (A/54/764);

(ii) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the follow-up to the 1996 review of the programme and administrative practices of the United Nations Environment Programme (A/54/817);

(iii) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda (A/54/836);

(iv) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the outcome of the consolidation of the three former economic and social departments into the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (A/55/750);

(b) Reiterates that reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services should be considered under the relevant items of the agenda of the General Assembly, in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

01-31438 (E) 020401

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 123
Human resources management

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Human resources management

The General Assembly decides to defer consideration of the item entitled "Human resources management" to the second part of its resumed fifty-fifth session.

01-32560 (E) 090401

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Fifty-fifth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 126
Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman following informal consultations

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

The General Assembly decides to defer consideration of agenda item 126 entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services" to the second part of its resumed fifty-fifth session.

01-31743 (E) 030401